

1 Regions, site and situation — Part 2

— Answers

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Work through these after you have tried the questions yourself.

1.6 A functional region (also accepted: nodal region).

1.7 Site is the physical character of the place itself — its land, water and climate; situation is its position relative to other places and its connections to them. For example, Singapore's site is a small tropical island with few resources, but its situation on the Strait of Malacca puts it on the world's busiest shipping route.

1.8 Absolute: the distance in kilometres. Relative: the distance in travel time, cost or effort.

1.9 GIS can overlay separate layers of data and analyse the relationship between them — for example combining flood risk with population density to find who is exposed — which a single printed map cannot do.

1.10 Environmental determinism claimed the environment decides how a society develops, which both fails to explain why societies in similar environments differ and was used to justify colonial rule. Possibilism holds that the environment limits the options while people choose among them.